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The Society of Garden Designers
GARDEN DESIGN AWARDS 2012

Discover who won what, including the People's Choice as voted by you, in this inaugural event that has set a benchmark for excellence for designers and clients alike

When it comes to creating the perfect outdoor space, employing a qualified garden designer to do it for you will reap dividends if these designs, created by the winners of the first SGD Garden Design Awards, are anything to go by. They were marked out by their beauty, practicality, suitability for year-round use, creative ideas and bespoke solutions to specific challenges, high-quality construction and a tangible value for money.

For more details about the winning gardens, visit [\[url to be inserted here DB to supply\]](#)

EDMUND VON EHRENS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS



THE JUDGING PANEL

ANDREW BAKER Garden designer, lecturer, former course leader of Garden Design at University College Falmouth, and gardening writer. Co-author of *The Garden Maker's Manual* and author of the How to Design sections of the *RHS Encyclopaedia of Garden Design*.

CHRISTINE WILSON Senior lecturer in Landscape Architecture at Leeds Metropolitan University and a site-specific artist with works throughout Britain and around the world, particularly in the Far East.

WILLIAM WATSON Lecturer, landscape architect and garden designer of public and private gardens, therapeutic landscapes and wetland habitats around Britain and abroad.

ANDREW ST. JOHN PEARSON Houses & Gardens editor for *Homes & Gardens* magazine.

INTERNATIONAL AWARD & THE GRAND AWARD

The **INTERNATIONAL AWARD**, sponsored by Landform Consultants, was won by Dan Pearson MSGD for Tokachi Millennium Forest, Hokkaido, Japan (above), and John Wyer FSGD for Spokane (below), Cheney, America. Dan also wins the **GRAND AWARD**, sponsored by Lorenz von Ehrens.

For the **International Award**, both Dan Pearson's project to create a sustainable landscape and John Wyer's garden for a contemporary house demanded that they work lightly on the existing environment. **The judges said,** "There was a wonderful lightness of touch in both entries and although there was disparity of scale and context, both competed at the same level. Dan's design explores the culture, values and ethics of the country rather than exporting an English style abroad, while John's garden acts as a buffer between building and landscape."

In presenting the **Grand Award** to Dan, **The judges said,** "The opportunity to do a work of this kind does not come up very often and Dan's Tokachi Millennium Forest is a project of international significance. It was more beautiful than any other entry, and is extraordinarily skilled, completely effortless and natural."





PUBLIC OR COMMUNAL OUTDOOR SPACE

Sponsored by Palmstead. Won by Andrew Wilson FSGD for Rose Garden in the Savill Garden, Egham, Surrey.

Set within Windsor Great Park, the client asked for a garden that was progressive in design and a sensory experience, allowing visitors to lose themselves in the sight and smell of hundreds of roses. **The judges said,** "This is not a formulaic rose garden. The inclined viewing platform that takes you right to the heart of the space is a brilliant way of enabling the visitor to see and smell the colour-block rose carpet below. It is also a clever way of providing the garden with a focus in winter when the roses are not in flower. The use of grasses as a frame and background for the spiky struts is a lovely finishing touch."

MEDIUM RESIDENTIAL GARDEN

Sponsored by Euro Plants. Won by Ian Kitson FSGD for Follers Manor, East Sussex. Ian also won THE JUDGES' AWARD, sponsored by David Harber; and the HARD LANDSCAPE award, sponsored by Stockscape.

This garden is situated on a distinct slope set within the South Downs National Park, with no major boundaries between private garden and the bold rolling hills of the surrounding landscape. **The judges said,** "This was the clear and outright winner of the Medium Residential award. Ian Kitson has made the jump from creating a design for a small garden to making one for a medium-space most successfully. The movement within the garden, and the way in which the design incorporates the wider landscape to make the garden feel larger than it actually is, is palpable." In also awarding the Hard Landscape award, the judges said, "The flint walling has a wonderful Arts and Crafts quality to it and it was great to see crazy paving used so successfully; Ian was not afraid to take risks." In giving Ian the Judges' Award, the panel concluded, "This garden looks good from every direction; it has strong lines and great texture, and is a frenzy of colour and pattern." The judges also praised the client for having the confidence and vision to allow Ian to create this ground-breaking design.



SMALL RESIDENTIAL GARDEN

Sponsored by Stonemarket. Won by Patricia Fox MSGD for 4 Maltese Road, London.

The owners of a small Victorian town house wanted a garden that would reflect the period of the building and provide them with a tranquil, private space in which to rest. **The judges said,** "This is a clever design that has transformed the very drab stone-flagged area that existed before and which makes the space feel much larger than it really is. It is an exciting but easy-to-maintain design that makes use of plants and other devices to take the visitor on a visual and physical journey, and which works well with, and really shows off, the Victorian terraced house that it surrounds." ▶